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(54) Title: LACCASES WITH IMPROVED DYEING PROPERTIES					
(57) Abstract					
The present invention relates to a permanent dyeing composition comprising: a) above 0 to 1 mg enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition of microbial laccase, b) one or more dye precursor, and c) optionally one or more dye modifiers, the use of the dyeing composition for dyeing keratinous fibres, such as hair, fur, hide and wool, and a method for permanent dyeing of keratinous fibres.					

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Title: Laccases with improved dyeing properties

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to a dyeing composition comprising a microbial laccase, the use of said dyeing composition for dyeing keratinous fibres, in particular hair, fur, hide and wool, and a method for dyeing keratinous fibres.

10 **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

It has been used for many years to dye the hair to cover appearing grey hair. The need to do so arises from the fact that grey hair is the first sign of having past adolescence, which can be hard to accept for many people.

15 For instance, in certain parts of Asia it is widely used by both men and women to dye the hair with dyes often referred to by humorous people as "black shoe polish".

20 During the last few decades hair dyeing has become more and more popular in the western world. At first Punk Rockers and other society critical groups dyed their hair in extreme colours as a part of their protest against the established society, but today especially many young people also uses hair dyes (in more soft tints than the Punk Rockers) as a sort of "cosmetic" to change or freshen up their "look".

25

Hair dyes

In general hair dyeing compositions on the market today can be divided into three main groups:

- temporary hair dyes,
- 30 - semi-permanent hair dyes, and
- permanent oxidative hair dyes.

The temporary hair dyes are only intended to change the natural hair colour for a short period of time and usually functions by depositing dyes on the surface of the hair. Such hair dyes are easy to remove with normal shampooing.

When using semi-permanent hair dyes the colour of the dyed hair can survive for five or more shampooings. This is achieved

by using dyes having a high affinity for hair keratin and which is able penetrate into the interior of the hair shaft.

Permanent hair dyes are very durable to sunlight, shampooing and other hair treatments and need only to be refreshed once a 5 month as new hair grows out. With these dyeing systems the dyes are created directly in and on the hair. Small aromatic colourless dye precursors (e.g. p-phenylene-diamine and o-aminophenol) penetrate deep into the hair where said dye precursors are oxidised by an oxidising agent into coloured 10 polymeric compounds. These coloured compounds are larger than the dye precursors and can not be washed out of the hair.

By including compounds referred to as modifiers (or couplers) in the hair dyeing composition a number of hair colour tints can be obtained. Cathecol and Resorcinol are 15 examples of such modifiers.

Traditionally H₂O₂ is used as the oxidizing agent (colour builder), but also as a bleaching agent. Dyeing compositions comprising H₂O₂ are often referred to as "lightening dyes" due to this lightening effect of H₂O₂.

20 The use of H₂O₂ in dyeing compositions have some disadvantages as H₂O₂ damages the hair. Further, oxidative dyeing often demands high pH (normally around pH 9-10), which also inflicts damage on the hair and on the skin. Consequently, if using dye compositions comprising H₂O₂ it is not recommended 25 able to dye the hair often.

To overcome the disadvantages of using H₂O₂ it has been suggested to use oxidation enzymes to replace H₂O₂.

US patent no. 3,251,742 (Revlon) describes a method for dyeing human hair by dye formation *in situ* (i.e. on the hair). 30 An oxidative enzyme is used to the colour formation reactions at a substantially neutral pH (7-8.5). Laccases, tyrosinases, polyphenolases and catacolases are mentioned as suitable oxidation enzymes. The only exemplified oxidation enzyme is tyrosinase.

35 EP patent no. 504.005 (Perma S.A.) concerns dyeing compositions for keratinous fibres, in particular hair, which do not require the presence of H₂O₂ (hydrogen peroxide). The

composition comprises an enzyme capable of catalysing the formation of the polymeric dyes and also dye precursors, such as bases and couplers, in a buffer solution wherein the pH of said composition is between 6.5 and 8 and said enzyme has an 5 optimal activity in the pH range between 6.5 and 8.

Rhizoctonia praticola laccase and *Rhus vernicifera* laccase are the only laccases exemplified in the patent.

Abstract of Papers American Chemical Society vol. 209, no. 1-2, 1995 discloses the cloning of laccases from *Scytalidium thermophilum* and *Myceliophthora thermophila*. The abstract does 10 not mention the use of said laccases for dyeing.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is to provide improved 15 dyeing compositions for keratinous fibres, such as hair, fur hide and wool, comprising an oxidative enzyme as the oxidising agent.

In the context of the present invention an "improved" 20 composition for dyeing keratinous fibres means a composition being capable of dyeing the keratinous fibres in question faster or by the use of a smaller amount of oxidation enzyme to obtain an optimal dyeing effect, determined as ΔE^* , in comparison to corresponding prior art dyeing compositions.

Further, it is also possible to use a less amount of dye 25 precursor. This is advantageous as certain dye precursors are very unhealthy and very carcinogenic.

Compositions capable of dyeing the keratinous fibres, in particular hair, fur, hide and wool, faster are desirable as such compositions are very user convenient.

30 Further, it is desirable to be able to use a less amount of enzyme in the dyeing composition. This might make the dyeing process more economical. Further, the risk for creating airborne protein aerosols is reduced.

It has now surprisingly been found that it is possible to 35 provide such improved dyeing compositions for keratinous fibres by using microbial laccases for oxidising the dye precursor(s).

Laccases (benzenediol:oxygen oxidoreductases) (E.C. class

1.10.3.2 according to Enzyme Nomenclature (1992) Academic Press, Inc.) are multi-copper containing enzymes that catalyse the oxidation of phenols. Laccase-mediated oxidation results in the production of aryloxy-radical intermediates from suitable 5 phenolic substrates; the ultimate coupling of the intermediates so produced provides a combination of dimeric, oligomeric, and polymeric reaction products. Certain reaction products may be used to form dyes suitable for dyeing keratinous fibres, such as hair and wool (see below).

10 Firstly, the object of the invention is to provide a dyeing composition comprising

- a) above 0 to 1 mg enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition of microbial laccase,
- b) one or more dye precursors,
- 15 c) optionally one or more modifiers.

Specifically contemplated is laccases of microbial origin, derived from a strain of the genus *Myceliophthora*.

20 In the second aspect the invention relates to the use of a dyeing composition of the invention for dyeing keratinous fibres, such as hair, fur, hide and wool.

25 The invention also related to a method for dyeing keratinous fibres comprising contacting the dyeing composition of the invention to the keratinous fibres in question under suitable conditions and for a period of time sufficient to permit oxidation of the dye precursor into a coloured compound.

The invention also relates to the use of a laccase for permanent dyeing of keratinous fibres wherein said laccase is a laccase that results in a ΔE^* -value higher than the ΔE^* -value resulting from a laccase derived from *Rhus* under corresponding 30 dyeing conditions.

This means that when dyeing keratinous fibres with a dyeing composition of the present invention the ΔE^* -value determined are higher than the ΔE^* -value determined from corresponding keratinous fibres dyed under the same conditions using a dyeing 35 composition comprising a laccase derived from *Rhus*.

The term "corresponding dyeing conditions" means under conditions where e.g. the enzyme concentration or enzyme

activity, dyeing incubations time, dyeing incubation temperature, pH conditions, keratin fibre type (such as hair type) are the same, and further that the same dye precursor(s) and modifier(s) are used. In other words it defines conditions parallel to the specific dyeing conditions chosen. The dyeing conditions described below in the Examples may be chosen.

In the context of the present invention a "higher" ΔE^* value defines that the total quantitative colour change is more than one ΔE^* unit.

10 ΔE^* is calculated from the values of the parameters a^* , b^* and L^* determined e.g. on a Minolta CR200 Chroma Meter using the formula $\Delta E^* = \sqrt{(\Delta L^*{}^2 + \Delta a^*{}^2 + \Delta b^*{}^2)}$. The meaning of a^* , b^* and L^* is explained below in the "Materials and Methods" section.

15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Figure 1 shows the dyeing effect of six different laccases. The six laccases are the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase (rPp-laccase), *Myceliophthora thermophila* laccase (Mt-laccase wt.), *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 variant laccase (Mt-laccase (var)), *Rhus vernicifera* laccase (RvL-FXu-1), *Scytalidium thermophilum* laccase (rStL-FXu-1) and *Rhizoctonia solani* laccase (rRsL-3-FXu-1). o-aminophenol is used as the dye precursor and m-phenylene-diamine is used as a modifier.

25 Figure 2 shows the wash stability of the *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 variant laccase (Mt-laccase (var)) and the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase (rPp-laccase) as the oxidising agent.

30 Figure 3 shows the fastness (speed) of hair dyeing using the *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 variant laccase (Mt-laccase (var)) and the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase (rPp-laccase) as the oxidising agent.

Figure 4 shows the dose-response dyeing effect of *Myceliophthora thermophila* laccase, using from 0.0001 to 0.5 mg enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The object of the present invention is to provide improved dyeing compositions for permanent dyeing of keratinous fibres, such as hair, fur, hide and wool, comprising an oxidation 5 enzyme.

It has now surprisingly been found that it is possible to provide such improved dyeing compositions by using a microbial laccase for oxidising the dye precursor(s).

10 **The Dyeing Composition**

In the first aspect the present invention relates to a dyeing composition comprising
a) above 0 to 1 mg enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition of microbial laccase,
15 b) one or more dye precursor, and
c) optionally one or more dye modifiers.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention the laccase may be present in the dyeing compositions in a concentration within the range from 0.0001 to 1 mg/ml, preferably 0.001 to 0.8 20 mg/ml, more preferred 0.002 to 0.5, even more preferred 0.003 to 0.2, especially 0.004 to 0.1 mg enzyme protein/ml dyeing composition.

When dyeing with a composition of the invention for permanent dyeing the ΔE^* -value obtained is higher than that 25 obtained when using a dyeing composition comprising a laccase derived from *Rhus* under corresponding dyeing conditions.

An example of a *Rhus* laccase is the laccase derived from the Japanese varnish tree *Rhus vernicifera* (Yoshida, (1883), J. Chem. Soc., 472). The *Rhus vernicifera* laccase is used in the 30 Example 1 below.

The microbial laccase used according to the invention is of fungal or bacteria origin, in particular of filamentous fungus origin.

In an embodiment of the invention the microbial laccase is 35 derived from a strain of genus *Myceliophthora*, such as a strain of the species *Myceliophthora thermophila* e.g. the purified laccase described in WO 95/33836 (PCT/US95/06815) from Novo

Nordisk, which is hereby incorporated by reference. SEQ ID NO 1 below shows a DNA sequence encoding a suitable laccase derivable from *Myceliophthora thermophila*.

5 *E. coli* JM101 containing the expression vector pRaMB5 comprising SEQ ID NO 1 has been deposited under the Budapest Treaty with the Agricultural Research Service Patent Culture Collection, Northern Regional Research Center, 1815 University Street, Peoria, Illinois, 61604. The vector have been given the Accession Number NRRL B-21261.

10 Also contemplated according to the invention are laccases derived from other micro-organisms being more than 80% homologous to SEQ ID NO 1 derived from *Myceliophthora thermophila*.

15 In addition, *Myceliophthora* laccases also encompass alternative forms of laccases which may be found in *M. thermophila* and as well as laccases which may be found in other fungi which are synonyms of fall within the definition of *M. thermophila* as described by Apinis (*Nova Hedwigia* 5, 57-78, 1963) and named *Sporotrichum thermophile*. Subsequent taxonomic revisions have placed this organism in the genus *Chrysosporium* (Von Klopotek, 20 A. Arche., (1974) *Microbiol*, 98, 365-369) and later *Myceliophthora* (Van Oorshot, *Persoonia*, (1977), 9, 401-408). A number of organisms known by other named also appear to belong to this species. These include *Sporotrichum cellulophilum* (US patent no. 4,106,989); *Thielavia thermophila* (Fergus and Sinden 25 (1968), *Can. J. Botany*, 47, 1635-1637); *Chrysosporium fergusii* and *Corynascus thermophilus* (Von Klopotek, supra).

Also the use of laccase variants are contemplated according to the present invention.

An example of a laccase variant is the *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 variant described in PCT/US96/14087 (Novo Nordisk).

30 T1 variants (or Type I variants) are modified blue copper oxidases, including laccases. T1 variants can for instance be constructed by site-directed mutagenesis and differ from the corresponding wild-type blue copper oxidases by at least one amino acid residue in the Type I (T1) copper site. These modifications generally result in altered pH profiles and/or specific activity relatively to the wild-type enzymes. This can

be advantageous when using the enzyme in question in dyeing compositions.

More specific the *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 laccase variant may comprise the sequence 509VSGGL511 or may be 5 modified as to increase the negative charge in at least one segment of the T1 copper site.

The above mentioned microbial laccases may advantageously be used in permanent dyeing composition for keratinous fibres. Such compositions have a superior dyeing effect to 10 corresponding compositions comprising e.g. the *Rhus vernicifera* laccase as shown in Example 1.

The *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 variant laccase is more wash stable and further dyes faster than the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase which is proven in Example 2 and Example 3, respectively. 15

Example 4 shows that less *Myceliophthora* laccase activity (i.e. LACU/ml) is needed to obtain a suitable dyeing effect in comparison to the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase.

Example 5 shows that for the *Myceliophthora thermophila* laccase the dyeing effect optimum is obtained around 0.005 mg 20 enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition.

In the case of using a *Myceliophthora* laccase in a permanent dyeing composition it may advantageously be present in concentrations from above 0 to 1 mg/ml, preferably 0.0001 to 25 0.1 mg/ml, more preferably 0.0005 to 0.05 mg/ml, especially 0.001 to 0.01 mg enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition.

It is to be understood that the laccase may be produced either homologously, or heterologously in a host cell such as filamentous fungus, yeast or bacteria.

30 Examples of filamentous fungi host cells include strains of the species of *Trichoderma*, preferably a strain of *Trichoderma harzianum* or *Trichoderma reesei*, or a species of *Fusarium*, or a species of *Aspergillus*, most preferably *Aspergillus oryzae* or *Aspergillus niger*, or yeast cells, such as e.g. a strain of 35 *Saccharomyces*, in particular *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, *Saccharomyces kluyveri* or *Saccharomyces uvarum*, a strain of *Schizosaccharomyces* sp., such as *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*, a

strain of *Hansenula* sp., *Pichia* sp., *Yarrowia* sp., such as *Yarrowia lipolytica*, or *Kluyveromyces* sp., such as *Kluyveromyces lactis*, or a bacteria, such as gram-positive bacteria such as strains of *Bacillus*, such as strains of *B. subtilis*, *B. Licheniformis*, *B. lentus*, *B. brevis*, *B. stearothermophilus*, *B. alkalophilus*, *B. amyloliquefaciens*, *B. coagulans*, *B. circulans*, *B. lautus*, *B. megaterium* or *B. thuringiensis*, or strains of *Streptomyces*, such as *S. lividans* or *S. murinus*, or gram-negative bacteria such as *Escherichia coli*.

To obtain dyeing of the keratinous fibres the dyeing composition of the invention comprises one or more dye precursors which is(are) converted into coloured compound(s) by an oxidation agent which according to the present invention is a microbial laccase.

Without being limited thereto the dye precursor(s) may be (an) aromatic compound(s) belonging to one of three major chemical families: the diamines, aminophenols (or aminonaphthols) and the phenols. Examples of isatin derivative dye precursors can be found in DE 4,314,317-A1. Further, a number of indole or indoline derivative dye precursors are disclosed in WO 94/00100. Said dye precursors mentioned in these documents are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Examples of suitable dye precursors include compounds from the group comprising p-phenylene-diamine (PPD), p-toluylene-diamine (PTD), chloro-p-phenylene-diamine, p-aminophenol, o-aminophenol, 3,4-diaminotoluene, 2-methyl-1,4-diaminobenzene, 4-methyl-o-phenylenediamine, 2-methoxy-p-phenylenediamine, 2-chloro-1,4-diamino-benzene, 4-amino diphenylamine, 1-amino-4- β -methoxyethylamino-benzene, 1-amino-4-bis-(β -hydroxyethyl)-amino benzene, 1,3-diamino-benzene, 2-methyl-1,3-diamino-benzene, 2,4-diaminotoluene, 2,6-diaminopyridine, 1-hydroxy-2-amino-benzene, 1-hydroxy-3-amino-benzene, 1-methyl-2-hydroxy-4-amino-benzene, 1-methyl-2-hydroxy-4- β -hydroxyethylamino-benzene, 1-hydroxy-4-amino-ebnzenene, 1-hydroxy-4-methylamino-benzene, 1-methoxy-2,4-diamino-benzene, 1-ethoxy-2,3-diamino-benzene, 1- β -hydroxyethoxy-2,4-diamino-benzene, phenazines, such as 4,7-

phenazinedicarboxylic acid, 2,7-phenazinedicarboxylic acid, 2-phenazinecarboxylic acid, 2,7-diaminophenazine, 2,8-diaminophenazine, 2,7-diamino-3,8-dimethoxyphenazine, 2,7-diamino-3-methoxyphenazine, 2,7-diamino 3-methoxyphenazine, 3-dimethyl 5,2,8-phenazinediamine, 2,2'-(8-amino-7-methyl-2-phenazinyl)-imino]bis-ethanol, 2,2'-(8-amino-7-methoxy-2-phenazinyl)imino]bis-ethanol, 2,2'-(8-amino-7-chloro-2-phenazinyl)imino]bis-ethanol, 2-[8-amino-7-methyl-2-phenazinyl)amino]-ethanol, 2,2'-(8-amino-2-phenazinyl)imino]bis-ethanol, 3-amino-7-(dimethylamino)-2,8-dimethyl-5-phenyl-chloride, 9-(diethylamino)-10,benzo[a]phenazine-1,5-diol, N-[8-(diethylamino)-2-phenazinyl]-methanesulfonamide, N-(8-methoxy-2-phenazinyl)- Methanesulfonamide, N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-2,7-phenazinediamine, 3,7-dimethyl-2-phenazinamine, p-amino benzoic acids, such as p-amino 15,benzoic acid ethyl, p-amino benzoic acid glycerid, p-amino benzoic acid isobutyl, p-dimethylamino benzoic acid amil, p-dimethylamino benzoic acid octyl, p-diethoxy amino benzoic amil, p- dipropoxy amino benzoic acid ethyl, acetylsalicylic acid, isatin derivatives, such as 2,3-diamino benzoic acid.

20 In an embodiment the laccase is used with the dye precursor directly to oxidise it into a coloured compound. The dye precursor may be used alone or in combination with other dye precursors.

It is believed that when using a diamine or an aminophenol 25 as the dye precursor at least one of the intermediates in the co-polymerisation must be an ortho- or para-diamine or amino-phenol. Examples of such are found below and are also described in US patent no. 3,251,742 (Revlon), the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

30 Optionally dyeing compositions (especially hair dyeing compositions) of the invention also comprise a modifier (coupler) by which a number of colour tints can be obtained. In general modifiers are used in dyeing composition for hair as the hair colours resulting from hair dyeing compositions 35 without modifier(s) are usually unacceptable for most people.

Modifiers are typically m-diamines, m-aminophenols, or poly-phenols. Upon the optional addition of a modifier (coupler) it

reacts with the dye precursor(s) in the presence of e.g. a laccase, converting the dye precursor(s) into a coloured compound.

Examples of modifiers (couplers) include m-phenylene-diamine, 2,4-diaminoanisole, 1-hydroxynaphthalene(α -naphthol), 1,4-dihydroxybenzene(hydroquinone), 1,5-dihydroxynaphthalene, 1,2-dihydroxybenzene(pyrocatechol), 1,3-dihydroxybenzene (resorcinol), 1,3-dihydroxy-2-methylbenzene, 1,3-dihydroxy-4-chlorobenzene(4-chlororesorcinol), 1,2,3, trihydroxybenzene, 1,2,4-trihydroxybenzene, 1,2,4-trihydroxy-5-methylbenzene, 1,2,4-trihydroxytoluene.

When using the dyeing compositions of the invention a reduced amount of enzyme (i.e. mg enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition) is needed to obtain the maximal dyeing effect (See Figure 1 and Figure 4), determined as the optimal ΔE^* -value, in comparison to prior art dyeing compositions, such as dyeing compositions comprising a laccase derived from *Rhus*.

The amount of dye precursor(s) and other ingredients used in the composition of the invention are in accordance with usual commercial amounts.

According to the invention the product comprising the dyeing composition may be a one or a two compartment product. In the one compartment product the laccase, the dye precursor(s) and other ingredients are keep together in a stabilised solution or kept under stable conditions (i.e. the dye precursors are not oxidised by the laccase). In a two compartment product the laccase and the dye precursor(s) and other ingredients are keep in two containers keep apart. The contents of said containers are mixed immediately before use.

30 USE

In the second aspect the invention relates to the use of the dyeing composition of the invention for permanent dyeing of keratinous fibres, in particular hair, fur, hide and wool.

When using a dying composition of the invention the ΔE^* -value obtained is higher than that of a dyeing composition comprising a laccase derived from genus *Rhus* under corresponding dyeing conditions (see Figure 1).

Method

In the third aspect the invention relates to a method for permanent dying of keratinous fibres comprising contacting a dyeing composition of the invention with the keratinous fibres 5 in question under suitable conditions and for a period of time sufficient to permit oxidation of the dye precursor into a coloured compound.

The dyeing procedure may be carried out at room temperature, preferably around the optimal temperature of the enzyme, typically with from 10 to 60°C; at a pH in the range from 3 to 10, 10 preferably 5 to 9, especially 6 to 8; for a period of time between 10 and 60 minutes, preferably 15 to 50 minutes, especially 20 to 40 minutes.

When using the method of the invention the ΔE^* -value 15 obtained is higher than that of corresponding methods where a laccase derived from a strain of the genus *Rhus* are used under the same dyeing conditions, in the presence or absence of at least one modifier, with at least one dye precursor, for a period of time, and under conditions sufficient to permit 20 oxidation of the dye precursor used for oxidising the dye.

The method can be conducted with one or more dye precursors, either alone or in combination with one or more modifiers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

25 **Materials:**

Hair:

6" De Meo Virgin Natural White Hair (De Meo Brothers Inc. USA)

Enzymes:

Myceliophthora thermophila laccase described in WO 95/33836 30 (PCT/US95/06815) from Novo Nordisk Biotech, Inc.

Myceliophthora thermophila T1 variant laccase described in US patent application 60/003,142 from Novo Nordisk Biotech, Inc.

Polyporus pinsitus laccase described in WO 96/00290 (PCT/US95/07536) from Novo Nordisk Biotech, Inc.

35 *Rhus vernicifera* laccase (Yoshida, J. Chem. Soc., 472 (1883))

Rhizoctonia solani laccase described in WO 95/07988 from Novo Nordisk Biotech, Inc.

Scytalidium thermophilum laccase described in WO 95/33837 (PCT/US95/06816) from Novo Nordisk Biotech, Inc.

Deposit of Biological Material

5 The following biological material has been deposited on the
25 May 1994 under the terms of the Budapest Treaty with the
Agricultural Research Service Patent Culture Collection,
Northern Regional Research Center, 1815 University Street,
Peoria, Illinois, 61604 and given the following accession
10 number.

Deposit

E. coli JM101 containing pRaMB5

Accession Number

NRRL B-21261

15 Dye precursors:

0.1 % w/w p-phenylene-diamine in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH
7.0. (pPD)

0.1 % w/w p-toluylene-diamine in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH
7.0.

20 0.1 % w/w chloro-p-phenylenediamine in 0.1 M K-phosphate
buffer, pH 7.0.

0.1 % w/w p-aminophenol in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH 7.0.

0.1 % w/w o-aminophenol in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH 7.0.

25 0.1 % w/w 3,4-diaminotoluene in 0.1 M K-phosphate, buffer pH
7.0.

Modifiers:

0.1 % w/w m-phenylenediamine in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH
7.0.

30 0.1 % w/w 2,4-diaminoanisole in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH
7.0.

0.1 % w/w alpha-naphthol in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH 7.0.

0.1 % w/w hydroquinone in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH 7.0.

0.1 % w/w pyrocatechol in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH 7.0.

35 0.1 % w/w resorcinol in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH 7.0.

0.1 % w/w 4-chlororesorcinol in 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer, pH
7.0.

The dye precursor is combined with one of the above indicated modifiers so that the final concentration in the dyeing solution is 0.1 % w/w with respect to precursor and 0.1 % w/w with respect to modifier.

5

Other solutions:

Commercial shampoo

Equipment:

10 Minolta CR200 Chroma Meter

Determination of Laccase Activity (LACU)

Laccase activity is determined from the oxidation of syringaldazin under aerobic conditions. The violet colour produced is photometered at 530 nm. The analytical conditions are 19 mM syringaldazin, 23.2 mM acetate buffer, pH 5.5, 30°C, 1 min. Reaction time.

1 laccase unit (LACU) is the amount of enzyme that catalyses the conversion of 1.0 micromole syringaldazin per minute at 20 these conditions.

Assessment of the hair colour

The quantitative colour of the hair tresses is determined on a Minolta CR200 Chroma Meter by the use the parameters L* ("0"=black and "100"=white), a* ("-"=green and "+"=red) and b* ("-" blue and "+" yellow).

ΔL^* , Δa^* and Δb^* are the delta values of L*, a* and b* respectively compared to L*, a* and b* of untreated hair (e.g. $\Delta L^* = L^*_{\text{sample}} - L^*_{\text{untreated hair}}$).

30 ΔE^* is calculated as $\Delta E^* = \sqrt{(\Delta L^*{}^2 + \Delta a^*{}^2 + \Delta b^*{}^2)}$ and is an expression for the total quantitative colour change.

EXAMPLES

35 **Example 1**

Dyeing effect

The dyeing effect of different laccases were tested and compared under the same conditions using 0.1% w/w o-aminophenol (dye precursor) and 0.1% w/w m-phenylene-diamine (modifier).

The laccases tested were

- 5 a *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase,
- a *Myceliophthora thermophila* laccase
- a *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 laccase variant,
- a *Rhus vernicifera* laccase
- a *Rhizoctonia solani* laccase
- 10 a *Scytalidium thermophila* laccase

Hair dyeing

1 gram white De Meo hair tresses were used.

- 15 4 ml dye precursor solution (including modifier) was mixed with 1 ml laccase on a Whirley mixer, applied to the hair tresses and incubated at 30°C for 60 minutes.

The hair tresses were then rinsed with running water, washed with shampoo, rinsed with water, combed, and air dried.

- 20 a*, b* and L* were determined on the Chroma Meter and ΔE* was then calculated.

Hair tress samples treated without enzyme were used as a blind.

The result of the test is displayed in figure 1.

- 25 **Example 2**

Wash stability

- Tresses of white De Meo hair (1 gram) were used for testing of the wash stability of hair dyed using the *Myceliophthora thermophila* T-variant laccase and the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase.
- 30

Oxidative hair dyeing was carried out as described in Example 1, except that p-phenylene-diamine (pPD) were used as the dye precursor and no modifiers were used.

- 35 **Hair wash**

The dyed hair tresses were wetted and washed for 15 seconds with 50 ml of commercial shampoo, and rinsed with water for 1

minute and air dried. The hair tresses were washed up to 18 times.

Then a^* , b^* and L^* were determined on the Chroma Meter and ΔE^* values were then calculated.

5 Hair tress samples treated without enzymes were used as blinds.

The result of the test is displayed in figure 2.

Example 3

10 Fastness of hair dyeing

Tresses of white De Meo hair (1 gram) were used for testing fastness (speed) of hair dyeing using the *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 variant laccase and the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase.

15 p-phenylene-diamine (pPD) was used as the dye precursor and no modifiers were used.

4 ml dye precursor solution was mixed with 1 ml laccase on a Whirley mixer, applied to the hair tresses and incubated at 30°C for 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 minutes, respectively.

20 The hair tresses were then rinsed with running water, washed with shampoo, rinsed with running water, combed, and air dried.

a^* , b^* and L^* were determined on the Chroma Meter for each incubation time and the ΔE^* -values were then calculated.

Hair tress samples treated without enzymes for 60 minutes
25 were used as blinds.

The result of the test is displayed in figure 3.

Example 4

Dyeing effect of *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 variant laccase

30 The dyeing effect of *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 variant laccase were compared with the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase using 0.1% w/w p-phenylene-diamine, 0.1% w/w p-touylene-diamine, 0.1% w/w chloro-p-phenylene-diamine, 0.1% w/w p-aminophenol, 0.1% w/w o-aminophenol and 0.1% w/w 3,4 diaminotoluene, respectively, as dye precursors.

The *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase were applied in a concentration of 10 LACU/ml while the *Myceliophthora*

thermophila T1 variant laccase was applied in a concentration of only 1 LACU/ml.

1 gram white De Meo hair tresses were used.

5 4 ml dye precursor solution was mixed with 1 ml laccase on a Whirley mixer, applied to the hair tresses and incubated at 30°C for 60 minutes.

The hair tresses were then rinsed with running water, washed with shampoo, rinsed with running water, combed, and air dried.

10 The a*, b* and L* were determined on the Chroma Meter and the ΔE* values were then calculated.

Hair tress samples treated without enzyme were used as blinds.

The result of the test is displayed in Table 1.

15 Table 1

Sample	<i>Polyporus pinsitus</i> laccase ΔE*	<i>Myceliophthora thermophila</i> T1 variant laccase ΔE*
p-phenylene-diamine blind	9.7	10.9
p-phenylene-diamine + laccase	52.7	52.9
p-toluylene-diamine blind	16.1	18.6
p-toluylene-diamine + laccase	39.1	38.2
chloro-p-phenylene-diamine blind	2.6	4.0
chloro-p-phenylene-diamine + laccase	40.5	39.2
p-aminophenol blind	6.2	7.0
p-aminophenol + laccase	32.4	28.1
o-amonophenol blind	5.6	6.4
o-amonophenol + laccase	22.9	22.0
3,4-diaminotoluene blind	3.4	2.6
3,4-diaminotoluene + laccase	36.5	42.2

As can be seen from Table 1 compositions comprising the *Myceliophthora thermophila* T1 laccase variant dyes the hair as good as the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase even though

concentration of the *Polyporus pinsitus* laccase is 10 time higher.

Example 5

5 Dose-response dyeing effect of *M. thermophila* laccase

The dyeing effect of *M. thermophila* laccase were tested using concentration between 0.0001 to 0.5 mg enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition of laccase. 0.1% w/w p-toluylene-diamine (PTD) was used as the dye precursor.

10 The same dyeing procedure as described in Example 1 was used. The result of the tests are displayed in Figure 4.

SEQUENCE LISTING

5 (1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

10 (i) APPLICANT:
 (A) NAME: Novo Nordisk A/S
 (B) STREET: Novo Alle
 (C) CITY: Bagsvaerd
 (D) COUNTRY: Denmark
 (E) POSTAL CODE (ZIP): DK-2880
 (F) TELEPHONE: +45 4444 8888
 (G) TELEFAX: +45 4449 3256

15 (ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Laccases with improved dyeing properties

20 (iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 2

25 (iv) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
 (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
 (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
 (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
 (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.30

30 (2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

35 (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 3192 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

40 (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

45 (ix) FEATURE:
 (A) NAME/KEY: CDS
 (B) LOCATION: join(586..831, 917..994, 1079..1090, 1193..1264,
 1337..2308, 2456..2524, 2618..3028)

50 (xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

TCTAGCTTCT	TTGGTCACCG	TCGTTTCGCG	CCGCCCCCTC	CCTCCTTCAA	CCCCCTGAGT	60	
45	AGTCGGCTAA	GCGATCCTCA	ATCTGGTCTT	GTGAGGTAC	GTCCTCCAGC	AGATGACAGT	120
	TCATCGAGCG	AGTGATCTCC	ACCACCCAGA	AGGGAGGGGG	GATGCGCGCA	TGCTCCAACA	180
50	TCCCTGGTGT	CGCTAGAGAC	GTCGCGGCAT	CAGCCTTTTC	ATCACACCGA	GCACGTCCAC	240
	GGACCGGCTC	CTTCAACCCC	CGCGTCCTCC	GGAGGATTGA	GTCACGATAT	TTCGGGATGT	300
	GGGAAGGGGG	AGAGAAAGGA	GGGGGGAGGG	GCGGAAACAT	GTTGGATAACG	AGCTGCGCCC	360
55	CTTTTTCAAC	ATCGAGAACCA	GGAAAGTCGTT	GGTGTGGCC	GTAATGTCTA	AAAAACGAGG	420
	CTCCTTCTCG	TCGTCGACTT	GTCTCAGGTT	CTCTCTCTCG	TCCACACCAA	GCCAGTCTTG	480
60	CCTGAGCCAC	CTGAGCCACC	TTCAACTCAT	CATCTTCAGT	CAAGTCGTT	ATTGACATTG	540
	TGTCTCTCTT	TCTATCGAGT	CGGCTTCCCG	GCCCTTCACC	ACAAAC	ATG AAG TCC	594
					Met Lys Ser		
					1		
65	TTC ATC AGC GCC GCG ACG CTT TTG GTG GGC ATT CTC ACC CCT AGC GTT	Phe Ile Ser Ala Ala Thr Leu Leu Val Gly Ile Leu Thr Pro Ser Val					642

	GCT GCT GCC CCT CCA TCC ACC CCT GAG CAG CGC GAC CTG CTC GTC CCG Ala Ala Ala Pro Pro Ser Thr Pro Glu Gln Arg Asp Leu Leu Val Pro 20 25 30 35	690
5	ATC ACG GAG AGG GAG GAG GCA GCC GTG AAG GCT CGC CAG CAG AGC TGC Ile Thr Glu Arg Glu Glu Ala Ala Val Lys Ala Arg Gln Gln Ser Cys 40 45 50	738
10	AAC ACC CCC AGC AAC CGG GCG TGC TGG ACT GAC GGA TAC GAC ATC AAC Asn Thr Pro Ser Asn Arg Ala Cys Trp Thr Asp Gly Tyr Asp Ile Asn 55 60 65	786
15	ACC GAC TAC GAA GTG GAC AGC CCG GAC ACG GGT GTT GTT CGG CCG Thr Asp Tyr Glu Val Asp Ser Pro Asp Thr Gly Val Val Arg Pro 70 75 80	831
20	GTGAGTGCTC TCGTTAATTAA CGCTTCGGCG AGTTGCGCAG ATATATTAAA TACTGCAAAC CTAACGCAGGA GCTGACATGC GACAG TAC ACT CTG ACT CTC ACC GAA GTC GAC Tyr Thr Leu Thr Leu Thr Glu Val Asp 85 90	891 943
25	AAC TGG ACC GGA CCT GAT GGC GTC GTC AAG GAG AAG GTC ATG CTG GTT Asn Trp Thr Gly Pro Asp Gly Val Val Lys Glu Lys Val Met Leu Val 95 100 105	991
30	AAC GTACGGCACC CCTTTCTTG TCCTAGGATC TGGGTGATGT GCGTCGTTGC Asn	1044
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40	ATACCGCCCT GCCTCCAGCA GCCCCAGCAG CTCGAGAAGG GTATCTGAAG TTAGTCAGGC CTGCTGACCT GACCGGGGCC AACCCACCAT AG GGA CCA ACA ATC TTT GCG GAC Gly Pro Thr Ile Phe Ala Asp 115	1160 1213
45	TGG GGC GAC ACG ATC CAG GTA ACG GTC ATC AAC AAC CTC GAG ACC AAC Trp Gly Asp Thr Ile Gln Val Thr Val Ile Asn Asn Leu Glu Thr Asn 120 125 130 135	1261
50	GGC GTATGTCTGC TGCTTGCTCT CTTGCTCTCC TCGTCGGCGA CTAATAATAA Gly	1314
55	TATCAACTCG TGTGGAAAAC AG ACG TCG ATC CAC TGG CAC GGA CTG CAC CAG Thr Ser Ile His Trp His Gly Leu His Gln 140 145	1366
60	AAG GGC ACC AAC CTG CAC GAC GGC GCC AAC GGT ATC ACC GAG TGC CCG Lys Gly Thr Asn Leu His Asp Gly Ala Asn Gly Ile Thr Glu Cys Pro 150 155 160	1414
65	ATC CCG CCC AAG GGA GGG AGG AAG GTG TAC CGG TTC AAG GCT CAG CAG Ile Pro Pro Lys Gly Gly Arg Lys Val Tyr Arg Phe Lys Ala Gln Gln 165 170 175	1462
70	TAC GGG ACG AGC TGG TAC CAC TCG CAC TTC TCG GCC CAG TAC GGC AAC Tyr Gly Thr Ser Trp Tyr His Ser His Ph Ser Ala Gln Tyr Gly Asn 180 185 190	1510
75	GGC GTG GTC GGG GCC ATT CAG ATC AAC GGG CCG GCC TCG CTG CCG TAC Gly Val Val Gly Ala Ile Gln Ile Asn Gly Pro Ala Ser Leu Pro Tyr 195 200 205 210	1558

	GAC ACC GAC CTG GGC GTG TTC CCC ATC ACG GAC TAC TAC TAC AGC TCG Asp Thr Asp Leu Gly Val Phe Pro Ile Ser Asp Tyr Tyr Tyr Ser Ser 215 220 225	1606
5	GCC GAC GAG CTG GTG GAA CTC ACC AAG AAC TCG GGC GCG CCC TTC AGC Ala Asp Glu Leu Val Glu Leu Thr Lys Asn Ser Gly Ala Pro Phe Ser 230 235 240	1654
10	GAC AAC GTC CTG TTC AAC GGC ACG GCC AAG CAC CCG GAG ACG GGC GAG Asp Asn Val Leu Phe Asn Gly Thr Ala Lys His Pro Glu Thr Gly Glu 245 250 255	1702
15	GCC GAG TAC GCC AAC GTG ACG CTC ACC CCG GGC CGG CGG CAC CGC CTG Gly Glu Tyr Ala Asn Val Thr Leu Thr Pro Gly Arg Arg His Arg Leu 260 265 270	1750
20	CGC CTG ATC AAC ACG TCG GTC GAG AAC CAC TTC CAG GTC TCG CTC GTC Arg Leu Ile Asn Thr Ser Val Glu Asn His Phe Gln Val Ser Leu Val 275 280 285 290	1798
	AAC CAC ACC ATG ACC ATC ATC GCC GCC GAC ATG GTG CCC GTC AAC GCC Asn His Thr Met Thr Ile Ile Ala Ala Asp Met Val Pro Val Asn Ala 295 300 305	1846
25	ATG ACG GTC GAC AGC CTC TTC CTC GGC GTC GGC CAG CGC TAC GAT GTC Met Thr Val Asp Ser Leu Phe Leu Gly Val Gly Gln Arg Tyr Asp Val 310 315 320	1894
30	GTC ATC GAA GCC AGC CGA ACG CCC GGG AAC TAC TGG TTT AAC GTC ACA Val Ile Glu Ala Ser Arg Thr Pro Gly Asn Tyr Trp Phe Asn Val Thr 325 330 335	1942
35	TTT GGC GGC GGC CTG CTC TGC GGC GGC TCC AGG AAT CCC TAC CCG GCC Phe Gly Gly Gly Leu Leu Cys Gly Ser Arg Asn Pro Tyr Pro Ala 340 345 350	1990
40	GCC ATC TTC CAC TAC GCC GGC CCC GGC CCG CCC ACG GAC GAG Ala Ile Phe His Tyr Ala Gly Ala Pro Gly Gly Pro Pro Thr Asp Glu 355 360 365 370	2038
	GGC AAG GCC CCG GTC GAC CAC AAC TGC CTG GAC CTC CCC AAC CTC AAG Gly Lys Ala Pro Val Asp His Asn Cys Leu Asp Leu Pro Asn Leu Lys 375 380 385	2086
45	CCC GTC GTG GCC CGC GAC GTG CCC CTG AGC GGC TTC GCC AAG CGG CCC Pro Val Val Ala Arg Asp Val Pro Leu Ser Gly Phe Ala Lys Arg Pro 390 395 400	2134
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55	GTC TGG AAG GTC AAC GGC AGC GCC ATC AAC ATC GAC TGG GGC AGG CCC Val Trp Lys Val Asn Gly Ser Ala Ile Asn Ile Asp Trp Gly Arg Pro 420 425 430	2230
60	GTC GTC GAC TAC GTC CTC ACG CAG AAC ACC AGC TTC CCA CCC GGG TAC Val Val Asp Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Asn Thr Ser Phe Pro Pro Gly Tyr 435 440 445 450	2278
	AAC ATT GTC GAG GTG AAC GGA GCT GAT CAG GTAAGAAAAA GGGGACCGCA Asn Ile Val Glu Val Asn Gly Ala Asp Gln 455 460	2328
65	GGGGTGCTGC TGCAAGTACA CCTTGCTCGC CCTCCTGTTC TTCCCTTAATA ACTACCTCCC AACCCTCCCC CCTAATTAAT TCACCTTAAA GGCGATCAA GACTGACCGA GCCCCCCTCTC	2388 2448

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20	GAG TCG CCG GCA TCC AAC GAG CCG CAC GTG TTC GAT CCG GCG CGG GAC Glu Ser Pro Ala Ser Asn Glu Arg His Val Phe Asp Pro Ala Arg Asp 500	505	2653
25	GCG GGC CTG CTG AGC GGG GCC AAC CCT GTG CGG CGG GAC GTG ACG ATG Ala Gly Leu Leu Ser Gly Ala Asn Pro Val Arg Arg Asp Val Thr Met 515	520	2701
30	CTG CCG GCG TTC GGG TGG GTG GTG CTG GCC TTC CGG GCC GAC AAC CCG Leu Pro Ala Phe Gly Trp Val Val Leu Ala Phe Arg Ala Asp Asn Pro 530	535	2749
35	CTG GGC TGG CTG TTC CAC TGC CAC ATC GCC TGG CAC GTC TCG GGC GGC Gly Ala Trp Leu Phe His Cys His Ile Ala Trp His Val Ser Gly Gly 545	550	2797
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45	TCG GAC GCC GAC GCC GAC CTC GAC CGC CTC TGC GCC GAC TGG CGC Ser Asp Ala Asp Ala Asp Asp Leu Asp Arg Leu Cys Ala Asp Trp Arg 580	585	2893
50	CGC TAC TGG CCT ACC AAC CCC TAC CCC AAG TCC GAC TCG GGC CTC AAG Arg Tyr Trp Pro Thr Asn Pro Tyr Pro Lys Ser Asp Ser Gly Leu Lys 595	600	2941
55	CAC CGC TGG GTC GAG GAG GGC GAG TGG CTG GTC AAG GCG TGAGCGAAGG His Arg Trp Val Glu Glu Gly Glu Trp Leu Val Lys Ala 610	615	2989
60	620	3038	
65	AGGAAAAAGG AAACAAAGAG GGGGGGGGG GCTAGTTCCCT ATTTTGCTT TTTTTTTTG TTCTTGTCCCT TGTGCTGGCG GTTACCCCTGG TAAAGGAGAA GGGGGCCCCA AGTTCGAGTG GGTGTGTGAT CGGGTAAATA TTATCAAGAG ATCT	3098	
70	(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:	3158	
75	(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS: (A) LENGTH: 620 amino acids (B) TYPE: amino acid (D) TOPOLOGY: linear	3192	
80	(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein		
85	(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:		
90	Met Lys Ser Phe Ile Ser Ala Ala Thr Leu Leu Val Gly Ile Leu Thr		

1	5	10	15
5	Pro Ser Val Ala Ala Ala Pro Pro Ser Thr Pro Glu Gln Arg Asp Leu 20 25 30		
	Leu Val Pro Ile Thr Glu Arg Glu Glu Ala Ala Val Lys Ala Arg Gln 35 40 45		
10	Gln Ser Cys Asn Thr Pro Ser Asn Arg Ala Cys Trp Thr Asp Gly Tyr 50 55 60		
	Asp Ile Asn Thr Asp Tyr Glu Val Asp Ser Pro Asp Thr Gly Val Val 65 70 75 80		
15	Arg Pro Tyr Thr Leu Thr Leu Thr Glu Val Asp Asn Trp Thr Gly Pro 85 90 95		
	Asp Gly Val Val Lys Glu Lys Val Met Leu Val Asn Asn Ser Ile Ile 100 105 110		
20	Gly Pro Thr Ile Phe Ala Asp Trp Gly Asp Thr Ile Gln Val Thr Val 115 120 125		
	Ile Asn Asn Leu Glu Thr Asn Gly Thr Ser Ile His Trp His Gly Leu 130 135 140		
25	His Gln Lys Gly Thr Asn Leu His Asp Gly Ala Asn Gly Ile Thr Glu 145 150 155 160		
30	Cys Pro Ile Pro Pro Lys Gly Gly Arg Lys Val Tyr Arg Phe Lys Ala 165 170 175		
	Gln Gln Tyr Gly Thr Ser Trp Tyr His Ser His Phe Ser Ala Gln Tyr 180 185 190		
35	Gly Asn Gly Val Val Gly Ala Ile Gln Ile Asn Gly Pro Ala Ser Leu 195 200 205		
40	Pro Tyr Asp Thr Asp Leu Gly Val Phe Pro Ile Ser Asp Tyr Tyr Tyr 210 215 220		
	Ser Ser Ala Asp Glu Leu Val Glu Leu Thr Lys Asn Ser Gly Ala Pro 225 230 235 240		
45	Phe Ser Asp Asn Val Leu Phe Asn Gly Thr Ala Lys His Pro Glu Thr 245 250 255		
	Gly Glu Gly Glu Tyr Ala Asn Val Thr Leu Thr Pro Gly Arg Arg His 260 265 270		
50	Arg Leu Arg Leu Ile Asn Thr Ser Val Glu Asn His Phe Gln Val Ser 275 280 285		
	Leu Val Asn His Thr Met Thr Ile Ile Ala Ala Asp Met Val Pro Val 290 295 300		
55	Asn Ala Met Thr Val Asp Ser Leu Phe Leu Gly Val Gly Gln Arg Tyr 305 310 315 320		
60	Asp Val Val Ile Glu Ala Ser Arg Thr Pro Gly Asn Tyr Trp Phe Asn 325 330 335		
	Val Thr Phe Gly Gly Leu Leu Cys Gly Gly Ser Arg Asn Pro Tyr 340 345 350		
65	Pro Ala Ala Ile Phe His Tyr Ala Gly Ala Pro Gly Gly Pro Pro Thr 355 360 365		

Asp Glu Gly Lys Ala Pro Val Asp His Asn Cys Leu Asp Leu Pro Asn
 370 375 380
 5 Leu Lys Pro Val Val Ala Arg Asp Val Pro Leu Ser Gly Phe Ala Lys
 385 390 395 400
 Arg Pro Asp Asn Thr Leu Asp Val Thr Leu Asp Thr Thr Gly Thr Pro
 405 410 415
 10 Leu Phe Val Trp Lys Val Asn Gly Ser Ala Ile Asn Ile Asp Trp Gly
 420 425 430
 Arg Pro Val Val Asp Tyr Val Leu Thr Gln Asn Thr Ser Phe Pro Pro
 435 440 445
 15 Gly Tyr Asn Ile Val Glu Val Asn Gly Ala Asp Gln Trp Ser Tyr Trp
 450 455 460
 20 Leu Ile Glu Asn Asp Pro Gly Ala Pro Phe Thr Leu Pro His Pro Met
 465 470 475 480
 His Leu His Gly His Asp Phe Tyr Val Leu Gly Arg Ser Pro Asp Glu
 485 490 495
 25 Ser Pro Ala Ser Asn Glu Arg His Val Phe Asp Pro Ala Arg Asp Ala
 500 505 510
 Gly Leu Leu Ser Gly Ala Asn Pro Val Arg Arg Asp Val Thr Met Leu
 515 520 525
 30 Pro Ala Phe Gly Trp Val Val Leu Ala Phe Arg Ala Asp Asn Pro Gly
 530 535 540
 35 Ala Trp Leu Phe His Cys His Ile Ala Trp His Val Ser Gly Gly Leu
 545 550 555 560
 Gly Val Val Tyr Leu Glu Arg Ala Asp Asp Leu Arg Gly Ala Val Ser
 565 570 575
 40 Asp Ala Asp Ala Asp Asp Leu Asp Arg Leu Cys Ala Asp Trp Arg Arg
 580 585 590
 Tyr Trp Pro Thr Asn Pro Tyr Pro Lys Ser Asp Ser Gly Leu Lys His
 595 600 605
 45 Arg Trp Val Glu Glu Gly Glu Trp Leu Val Lys Ala
 610 615 620

INDICATIONS RELATING TO A DEPOSITED MICROORGANISM

(PCT Rule 13 bis)

A. The indications made below relate to the microorganism referred to in the description
on page 13, line 4-13.

B. IDENTIFICATION OF

Further deposits are identified on an additional sheet

Name of depository institution

Agricultural Research Service Patent Culture Collection (NRRL)

Address of depository institution (*including postal code and country*)

Northern Regional Research Center
1815 University Street
Peoria, IL 61604, US

Date of deposit
25 May 1994

Accession Number
NRRL B-21261

C. ADDITIONAL INDICATIONS (*leave blank if not applicable*) This information is continued on an additional sheet

In respect of those designations in which a European and/or Australia Patent is sought, during the pendency of the patent application, a sample of the deposited microorganism is only to be provided to an independent expert nominated by the person requesting the sample (Rule 28(4) EPC/Regulation 3.25 of Australia Statutory Rule 1991 No. 71).

D. DESIGNATED STATES FOR WHICH INDICATIONS ARE MADE (*if the indications are not for all designated States*)E. SEPARATE FURNISHING OF INDICATIONS (*leave blank if not applicable*)

The indication listed below will be submitted to the International Bureau Later (*specify the general nature of the indications e.g.
"Accession Number of Deposit"*)

For receiving Office use only

This sheet was received with the international application

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For International Bureau use only

This sheet was received with the International Bureau on:

Authorized officer

PATENT CLAIMS

1. A dyeing composition comprising
 - a) above 0 to 1 mg enzyme protein per ml dyeing composition of microbial laccase,
 - b) one or more dye precursor, and
 - c) optionally one or more dye modifiers.
2. The dyeing composition according claims 1, wherein the laccase is presents in a concentration of from 0.0001 to 1 mg/ml, preferably 0.001 to 0.8 mg/ml, more preferred 0.002 to 0.5 mg/ml, even more preferred 0.003 to 0.2 mg/ml, especially 0.004 to 0.1 mg enzyme protein/ml dyeing composition.
3. The dyeing composition according to claims 1 and 2, wherein said microbial laccase is of filamentous fungus origin.
4. The dyeing composition according to claims 1 and 2, wherein the laccase is derived from a strain of the genus *Myceliophthora*, in particular a strain of species *Myceliophthora thermophila*, such as *Myceliophthora thermophila* NRRL B 21261, or variants thereof, such as the T1 variant.
5. The dyeing composition according to claim 4, wherein the laccase is encoding by the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO 1.
6. The dyeing composition according to claims 4 and 5, wherein the laccase is present in a concentration of from above 0 to 1 mg/ml, preferably 0.0001 to 0.1 mg/ml, more preferably 0.0005 to 0.05 mg/ml, especially 0.001 to 0.01 mg enzyme protein/ml dyeing composition.
7. The dyeing composition according to any of claims 1 to 6, comprising a dye precursor selected from the group comprising p-phenylene-diamine (pPD), p-toluylene-diamine (pTD), chloro-p-phenylenediamine, p-aminophenol, o-aminophenol, 3,4-diamino-toluene, 2-methyl-1,4-diaminobenzene, 4-methyl-o-phenylenediamine, 2-methoxy-p-phenylenediamine, 2-chloro-1,4-diamino-benzene, 4-amino diphenylamine, 1-amino-4-β-methoxyethylamino-benzene, 1-amino-4-bis-(β-hydroxyethyl)-amonibenzene, 1,3-diamino-benzene, 2-methyl-1,3-diamino-benzene, 2,4-diaminotoluene, 2,6-diaminopyridine, 1-hydroxy-2-amino-benzene, 1-hydroxy-3-amino-benzene, 1-methyl-2-hydroxy-4-amino-benzene, 1-methyl-2-hydro-

xy-4- β -hydroxyethylamino-benzene, 1-hydroxy-4-amino-benzene, 1-hydroxy-4-methylamino-benzene, 1-methoxy-2,4-diamino-benzene, 1-ethoxy-2,3-diamino-benzene, 1- β -hydroxyethoxy-2,4-diamino-benzene, phenazines, such as 4,7-phenazinedicarboxylic acid, 5 2,7-phenazinedicarboxylic acid, 2-phenazinecarboxylic acid, 2,7-diaminophenazine, 2,8-diaminophenazine, 2,7-diamino-3,8-dimethoxyphenazine, 2,7-diamino-3-methoxyphenazine, 2,7-diamino 3-methoxyphenazine, 3-dimethyl 2,8-phenazinediamine, 2,2'-(8-amino-7-methyl-2-phenazinyl)imino]bis-ethanol, 2,2'-(8-amino-10 7-methoxy-2-phenazinyl)imino]bis-ethanol, 2,2'-(8-amino-7-chloro-2-phenazinyl)imino]bis-ethanol, 2-[(8-amino-7-methyl-2-phenazinyl)amino]-ethanol, 2,2'-(8-amino-2-phenazinyl)imino]-bis-ethanol, 3-amino-7-(dimethylamino)-2,8-dimethyl-5-phenylchloride, 9-(diethylamino)- benzo[a]phenazine-1,5-diol, N-[8-15 (diethylamino)-2-phenazinyl]- methanesulfonamide, N-(8-methoxy-2-phenazinyl)-methanesulfonamide, N,N,N',N'-tetramethyl-2,7-phenazinediamine, 3,7-dimethyl-2-phenazinamine, p-amino benzoic acids, such as p-amino benzoic acid ethyl, p-amino benzoic acid glycerid, p-amino benzoic acid isobutyl, p-dimethylamino 20 benzoic acid amil, p-dimethylamino benzoic acid octyl, p-diethoxy amino benzoic amil, p-diproxy amino benzoic acid ethyl, acetylsalicylic acid, isatin derivatives, such as 2,3-diamino benzoic acid.

8. The dyeing composition according to any of claims 1 to 7, 25 comprising a dye modifier selected from the group comprising m-phenylene-diamine, 2,4-diaminoanisole, 1-hydroxynaphthalene(α -naphthol), 1,4-dihydroxybenzene(hydroquinone), 1,5-dihydroxy-naphthalene, 1,2-dihydroxybenzene(pyrocatechol), 1,3-dihydroxybenzene (resorcinol), 1,3-dihydroxy-2-methylbenzene, 1,3-dihydroxy-4-chlorobenzene (4-chlororesorcinol), 1,2,3,trihydroxybenzene, 1,2,4-trihydroxybenzene, 1,2,4-trihydroxy-5-methylbenzene, 1,2,4-trihydroxytoluene.

9. Use of the composition according to claim 1 to 8 for permanent dyeing of keratinous fibres, such as hair, fur, hide 35 or wool.

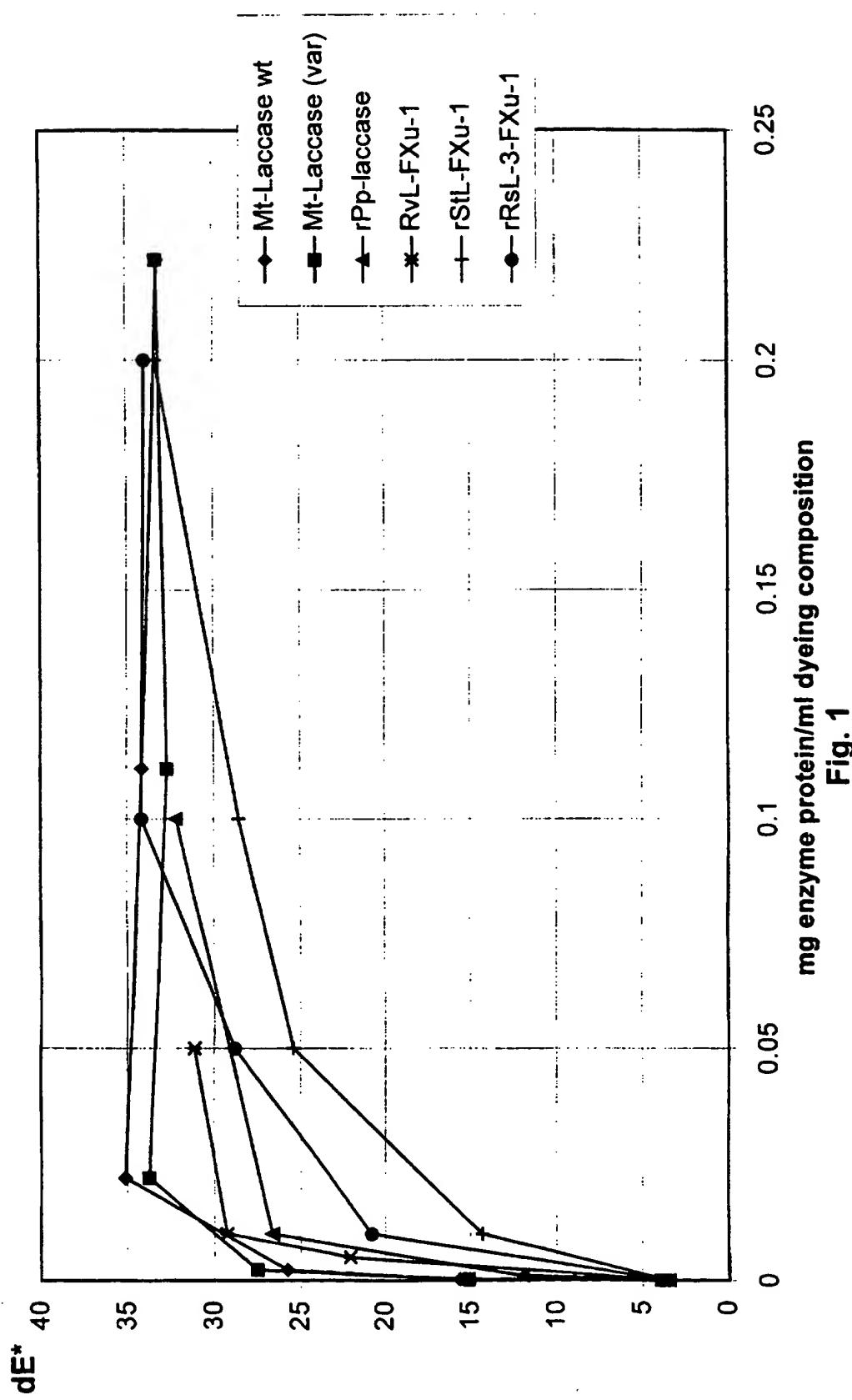
10. A method for dying keratinous fibres comprising contacting a dyeing composition according to claims 1 to 8 to

the keratinous fibres under suitable conditions and for a period of time sufficient to permit oxidation of the dye precursor into a coloured compound.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the dyeing procedure is carried out at a pH in the range from 3 to 10, 5 preferably 5 to 9, especially 6 to 8.

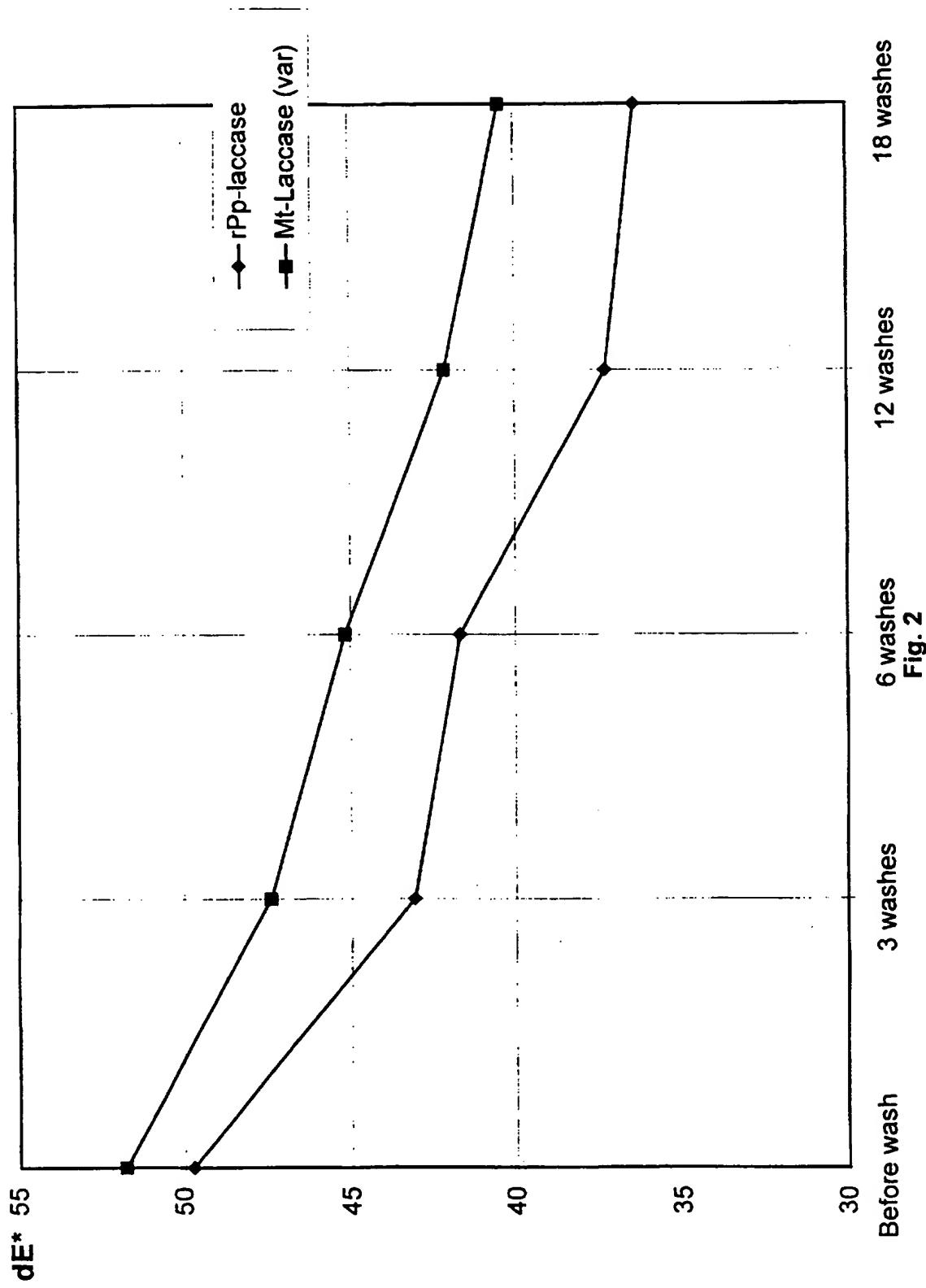
12. The method wherein according to claims 10 and 11, wherein the procedure is carried out for a period of time between 10 and 60 minutes, preferably 15 to 50 minutes, 10 especially 20 to 40 minutes.

1/4



mg enzyme protein/ml dyeing composition
Fig. 1

2/4



3/4

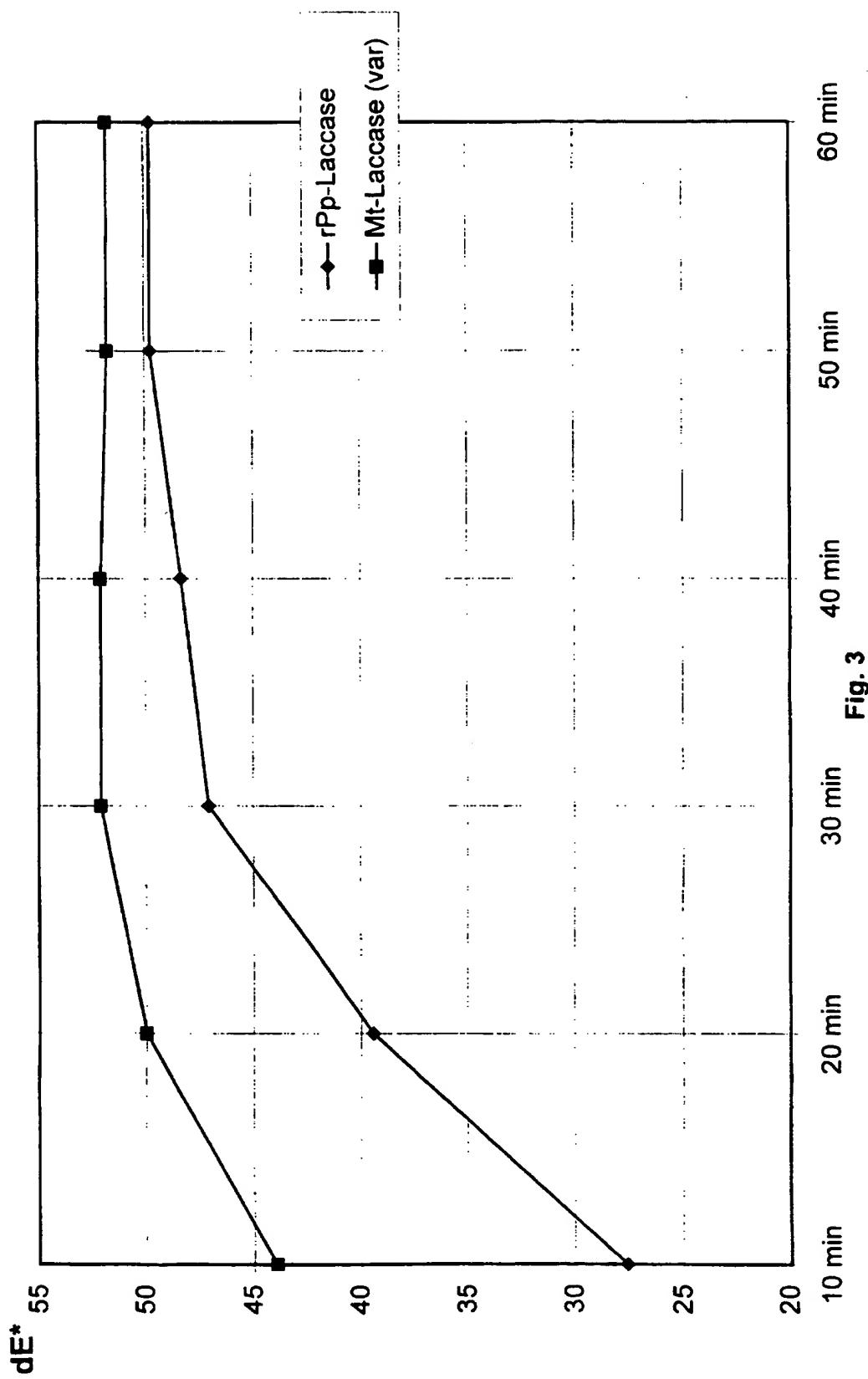
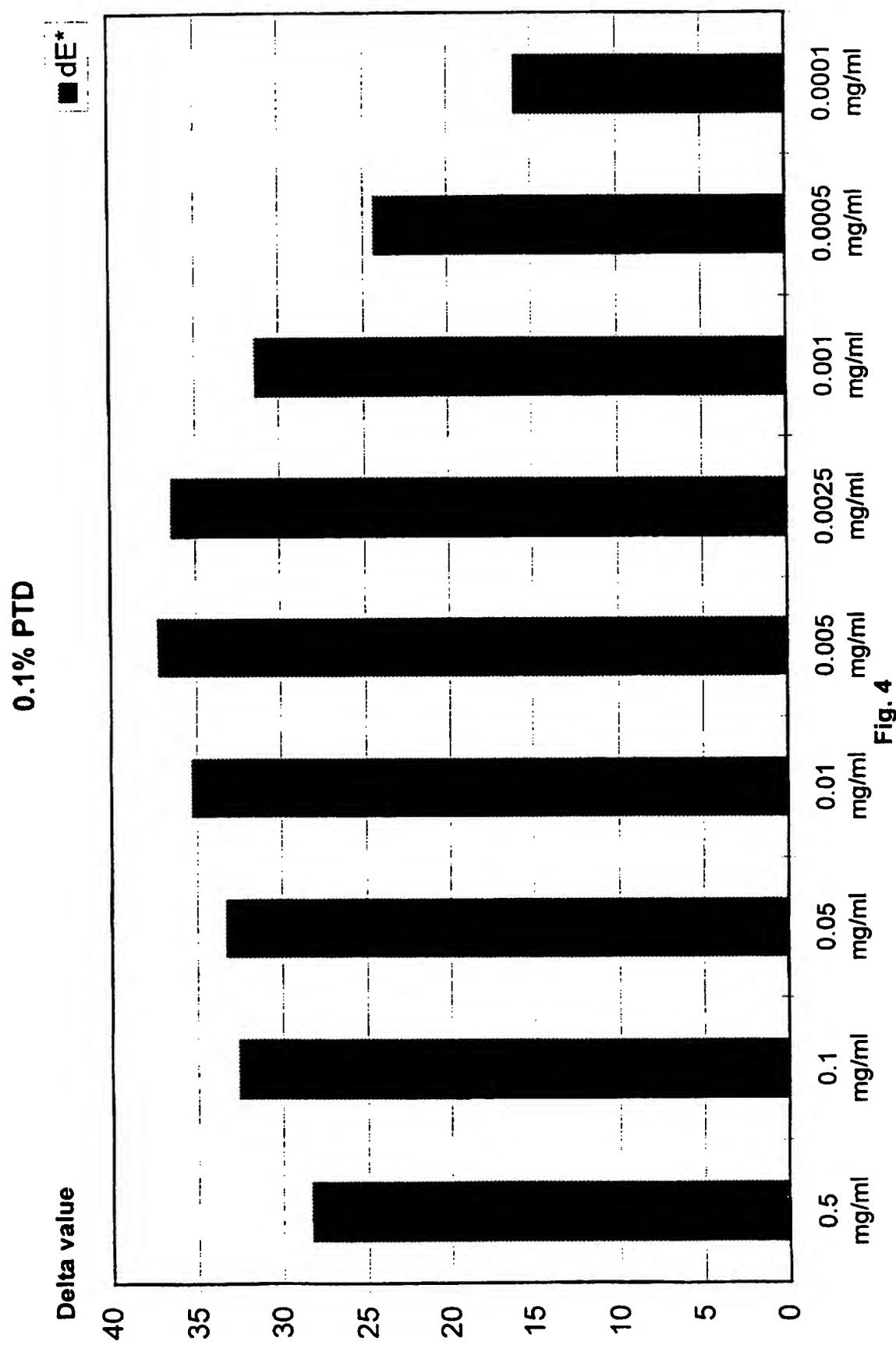


Fig. 3



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DK 96/00499

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC6: C09B 67/00, A61K 7/13

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC6: C09B, A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	WO 9533836 A1 (NOVO NORDISK BIOTECH, INC.), 14 December 1995 (14.12.95), claims 31-42; page 16, line 12 - page 17, line 27; page 34, line 20 - page 36 --	1-12
P,X	WO 9533837 A1 (NOVO NORDISK BIOTECH, INC.), 14 December 1995 (14.12.95), claims 28, 29; page 15, line 34 - page 16, line 2	1-3
P,A	--	4-12
X	EP 0504005 A1 (PERMA SOCIETE ANONYME), 16 Sept 1992 (16.09.92)	1-3
A	--	4-12

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

- * Special categories of cited documents:
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- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 February 1997

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DK 96/00499

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	--	4-12
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A	WO 9507988 A1 (NOVO NORDISK A/S), 23 March 1995 (23.03.95), claim 41	1-12
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

03/02/97

International application No.

PCT/DK 96/00499

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